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18), and among the variants of No. 60, "Mary moder welle the be", the version in Ms. Ashmolean 750, f. 100.

The usefulness of the book would have been enhanced by an index of first lines, and by an index of manuscripts.

The defects that nave been noted are relatively slight, and this book maintains the standard of excellence of a noteworthy series.

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LOHMANN, HANNA: JOHN WOODWARD, THE LIFE AND TRAGEDY OF THE ROYAL LADY MARY, LATE QUEEN OF SCOTS. Berlin, 1912; pp. 138.

This monograph, a University of Berlin dissertation, presents in admirable form and with more than adequate critical apparatus, a text of John Woodward's poem, which Dr. Lohmann has chosen as the excuse for her dissertation.

The poem in itself is thoroughly pedestrian. All the defects of the ordinary stall ballad are here rendered doubly oppressive by the prolixity—there are one hundred and eighty-six seven-line stanzas—which the balladist usually avoided. Finding the poem as it was, however, Miss Lohmann has treated it admirably, and has made it the occasion for a discussion of various matters of interest.

The text as here printed is based on a hitherto unpublished MS. in the Advocates' Library, and the occasional lacunae are supplied from the only other discovered MS. in the British Museum. Recording in the footnotes all variant readings, Miss Lohmann has treated the poem as if it were a newly discovered fragment of Chaucer, but has made the mistake of retaining in her text the original punctuation ("Die interpunktion habe ich beibehalten"), thereby rendering it needlessly difficult to understand Woodward's verse.

The most contributory section of the monograph is that entitled "Frühere Dichtungen über Maria Stuart." In these thirty pages the author has collected material of undoubted, if limited, interest. Other sections, dealing with the relation of the poem to history, and its debt to the *Mirror for Magistrates,* are less valuable.

Taken as a whole, the dissertation is an admirable exercise in editing. It is unfortunate that the poem which occasioned the study was not more worthy of reclamation from the limbo of the deservedly forgotten.

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